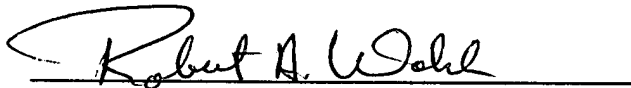


**REMARKS**

A prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Applicant's respectfully submit that the entire application is in condition for allowance. However, should the Examiner believe anything further is necessary in order to place the application in better condition for allowance, or if the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be advantageous to resolve the issues presented, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert A. Walsh", is written over a horizontal line.

**Robert A. Walsh**  
**Reg. No. 26, 516**  
IBM Corporation  
1000 River Street, 972E  
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(802)769-9521

Dated: September 19, 2003